Registered No. M.—1175

127

The Mysore Gazette.

Vol. 69] PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY [No. 12

BANGALORE, THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 1934.

PART I

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS

DEVELOPMENT SECRETARIAT

Administration of Town and Minor Municipal Councils.

READ—

The reports on the working of the several Town and Minor Municipal Councils in the State for the year 1932-33, and the reviews of the Deputy Commissioners thereon.

ORDER No. L. 6727-40—ML. 140-33-20, DATED BANGALORE, THE 10TH MARCH 1934.

Recorded.

2. The reports and reviews from the Deputy Commissioners of Mysore, Kolar and Chitaldrug were not submitted in time. They were received only after telegraphic reminders were issued. The delay in the submission of these reports has been a recurring feature every year. This is very unsatisfactory. The statistical returns furnished by the Deputy Commissioners of Hassan and Kolar are not complete, while those of the Shimoga District are not compiled with adequate care. Such incomplete and inaccurate returns hardly serve the purpose for which they are intended. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts are requested to make efficient arrangements for the correct compilation and punctual submission of the reports, reviews and statistics in future in accordance with para 3 (ii) of Government Order No. L. 7848-70—Ml. 135-23-1, dated 2nd April 1924. It should be noted that these reports are different from, and are in addition to, the brief reports prescribed in sub-para (vi) of the same para of the Order.

3. At the end of the year there were 38 Town and 66 Minor Municipalities, the Minor Municipality of Mandya having been converted into a Town Municipality during the year. The question of the abolition of Shiralkoppa, Sorab, Kumsi and Hosanagar as Minor Municipal Councils recommended by the Deputy Commissioner is under the consideration of Government, as they do not satisfy the conditions laid down in the Minor Municipalities Regulation, 1933, regarding population and their income is also poor.

4. *Constitution.*—The terms of such of the Town and Minor Municipal Councils as were due to expire on or before the close of the year were extended up to the end of December 1933, with a view to enable their being reconstituted in conformity with the provisions of the new Town and Minor Municipalities Regulations. General elections were held in five Municipal Councils and by-elections were held in 21 Municipal Councils for filling up casual vacancies. These elections are reported to have been keenly contested. The results of the general election held in Shikarpur Town Municipality were duly reported to Government; but they were not notified, in view of the coming into force of the new Municipal Regulations and the term of the Council was extended up to the end of 25th February 1934, so that elections might be held for filling up the additional seats consequent on the increase in its elected strength under the new Town Municipal Regulation.

5. *Strength of Municipal Councils and Meetings.*—The total strength of the members on all the Municipal Councils on the last day of the year, including the Presidents who were additional members, was 1,560, of whom 749 were elected, 510 non-officials nominated by the Government and the rest salaried servants of Government. The total number of meetings held by all the Municipal Councils during the year was 1,596, of which 900 were ordinary, 317 special and the rest were adjourned meetings. Several Municipal Councils did not hold even the prescribed number of meetings, the Municipal Councils of Madhugiri, Sira, Srinivaspur and Hosanagar having held only three meetings each during the year. Nearly 25 per cent of the total number of meetings held were adjourned ones. The number of meetings adjourned for want of quorum continued to be large in Channapatna, Vadigenahalli, Nelamangala, Srinivaspur, Tiptur, Sira, Alur, Belur, Arkalgud, Arsikere, Birur, Chikmagalur, Kadur, Mudgere, Jagalur and Hosanagar Municipalities. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts are requested to impress upon the non-official members, the importance of taking keener interest in the discharge of their civic duties. The attendance of the *ex-officio* members at the meetings is reported to have been fairly satisfactory. Government have also directed that, in cases of neglect on the part of *ex-officio* members to attend the meetings of Municipal Councils regularly, disciplinary action should be taken against them.

6. *Presidents and Vice-Presidents.*—During the year the Municipal Councils of Tiptur, Tumkur, Anekal, Chikmagalur, Dodballapur and Malur continued to have non-official Presidents. The Municipal Council of Sagar ceased to have the privilege of having a non-official elected President, since on the resignation of the last incumbent, the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Sagar Sub-Division was appointed as *ex-officio* President of the Municipal Council. The post of the Chief Officer in Nanjangud Municipality was continued during the year. Owing to the unsatisfactory state of affairs in Dodballapur and Anekal Municipalities, the non-official Presidents have been recently replaced by official Presidents, and Chief Officers have also been appointed to assist the *ex-officio* Presidents in the discharge of their duties. The Amildar, Malur Taluk, has also taken up in similar circumstances the administration of the Municipal affairs in Malur Town from the non-official President. Almost all the Municipal Councils had the privilege of elected non-official Vice-Presidents.

7. *Committees.*—In spite of the instructions issued in the reviews on the administration of Municipalities in previous years, Government regret to note that many of the committees formed in the Municipalities in Bangalore, Mysore, Kadur, Hassan and Shimoga Districts did not function during the year. In the Kadur District there was a multiplicity of Committees which served no useful purpose. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts are requested to impress upon the Presidents of the Municipal Councils the importance of constituting the prescribed number of committees and utilising them for the transaction and disposal of the large volume of business coming up before the Municipal Councils.

8. *Rules and By-laws.*—Rules for the levy of Pilgrim and Visitors' Tax and Lighting Tax in Seringapatam and of tolls and of lighting and other taxes in the Malvalli Municipality were sanctioned by the Government. The Kolar Town Municipality framed by-laws for the regulation of the supply of water and the grant of house connections. Several Municipal Councils framed by-laws for the levy of fees in vegetable markets and weekly shandies, shop-tax, tax on professions

and for regulating conservancy and sanitation and for obtaining information relating to dangerous and infectious diseases. Under the Minor Municipalities Regulation, 1933, the Municipal Councils have no power to frame by-laws as heretofore and the power of framing rules on all matters has been reserved to Government and the necessary rules are being issued. In the case of Town Municipal Councils, the Deputy Commissioners are requested to instruct the Presidents to take early action to frame the necessary rules and by-laws under the Town Municipalities Regulation, 1933, in regard to matters about which no rules or by-laws have been framed yet.

9. *Finance and Incidence of Taxation.*—The year opened with a balance of Rs. 3,68,216. The income and expenditure amounted to Rs. 15,39,433 and Rs. 15,24,271 respectively, and the closing balance amounted to Rs. 3,83,778. The financial condition of several Municipal Councils however continued to be very poor and unsatisfactory in view of the prevailing general economic depression and the slender resources of several Municipal Councils, it is very necessary that the Municipal Councils should observe the strictest possible economy and restrict their expenditure to obligatory items. The attention of the Presidents should also be drawn to the provisions in the new Municipal Regulations relating to surcharge, in case of unauthorised and illegal expenditure. The incidence of taxation per head of population ranged from Rs. 4-14-0 in Koppa Municipality to Re. 0-4-3 in Mayakonda Municipality.

10. *Demand, Collection and Balance.*—Out of the total demand of Rs. 17,48,455 for the year including arrears, a sum of Rs. 12,95,725 was collected, leaving a sum of Rs. 4,52,730 to be collected at the end of the year. The percentage of collection to the demand including arrears was the highest in the Tumkur District, *viz.*, 84 per cent, while it was the lowest in the Mysore District, *viz.*, 49 per cent. The arrears as usual continued to be heavy in all the Municipalities. Unless prompt and energetic action for the recovery of the outstanding arrears is taken, it is feared that many Municipal Councils would not be in a position to discharge even the obligatory duties devolving upon them under the statute. As a result of slackness in collections, several Municipal Councils, which have been supplied with electric lights, have defaulted continuously in the payment of the deficit guaranteed by them to the Electrical Department. The financial condition of Anekal Municipality was so poor that even the pay of the establishment was not disbursed for months and heavy arrears of taxes are pending recovery in this as well as in Dodballapur Municipality. It is hoped that under the *ex-officio* Presidents and Chief Officers since appointed to these Municipalities the accumulated arrears will be recovered before long and the collection work brought up-to-date. The Hosanagar Municipal Council, has been unable to pay up the Medical, Veterinary and State Fund road contributions owing to its poor finances consequent on the unsatisfactory collections, and the question of waiving the arrears of contribution and also that which becomes due for a period of three years to give the Municipality some relief, is under the consideration of the Government. It is noted that some Municipal Councils, such as Channapatna, Hassan and Chikmagalur, have instituted civil suits against defaulters for the recovery of their dues. Special Revenue Inspectors for the collection of arrears of building and land taxes were temporarily appointed in the Municipalities of Mugur, Yedatore and Malvalli. The Presidents of all Municipal Councils should be instructed to collect the outstanding arrears by the adoption of timely coercive measures, so as to enable them to provide funds for carrying out improvement works.

11. *Town Improvement Grants.*—A sum of Rs. 40,000 was granted by the Government for the improvement of Town and Minor Municipalities during the year. Improvement of drainage, formation of circles and parks, removal of congestion and other sanitary works were under consideration by several Municipal Councils. The Town Hall at Sagar was completed and handed over to the Municipal Council. The foundation stone of the Madhugiri Town Hall was laid by the Dewan. The High School Building at Chintamani and that at Bowringpet were in the course of construction. The scheme of tarring roads was taken up by the Davangere Municipal Council and a sum of Rs. 12,304 was spent on the work.

12. *Drainage.*—A drainage scheme for Chamarajnagar at a cost of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned. Drainage schemes were in progress at Davangere, Tarikere,

Goribidnur, Hiriyur and Molkalmuru. A sum of Rs. 6,000 was placed at the disposal of the Executive Engineer, Canal and Project Division, Mandya, in connection with the drainage scheme of old Mandya Town. The question of giving loans from Government for taking up the drainage works at Tumkur and Shimoga is under the consideration of Government. Several Minor Municipal Councils such as Pavagada and Saklespur are also carrying out drainage works in stages with the help of Government grants and consistent with their financial resources.

13. *Water Supply.*—The control of water-supply continued to vest in the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering. A sum of Rs. 25,000 was sanctioned by the Government for water-supply in towns. The Kolar Town Water Works, otherwise called the Chikchennanjappa Setty Water Works, were opened by the Dewan during the year. The schemes of water-supply to French-Rocks, Dodballapur, Hosdurga, Madhugiri and Malur Towns were sanctioned. Projects of water-supply to Hole-Narsipur, Konanur, Kunigal, Seringapatam, Devanhalli and Channapatna were under consideration. A fourth bore-well was successfully sunk at Arsikere and the sinking of a second bore-well in Chikballapur was undertaken. Action was taken to extend the water-supply scheme to Hosaline by the Hassan Town Municipality and two estimates aggregating Rs. 17,323 were sanctioned for the extension of water-supply scheme at Tiptur to parts of the town not served before. Several Municipal Councils also carried out improvements to their water-supply sources at their own cost during the year.

14. *Public Health and Sanitation.*—Public health was generally good during the year in all the districts except for occasional outbreaks of plague, cholera, small-pox, etc., in certain places. Prompt steps are reported to have been taken by the Municipal Councils concerned for their suppression by the usual methods of inoculation and evacuation. Baby Week and Health Exhibitions were held at Hoskote under the Presidency of Sir Charles Todhunter, K.C.S.I., and Baby Shows were held in Honnali and Kumsi Municipalities and in addition, a Health Exhibition was arranged in the latter Municipality. Health Week and Baby Shows were also held in Anekal, Nelamangala, Channapatna and Vadigenahalli Municipalities.

15. *Public Safety and Convenience.*—The opening ceremony of the electric light installation at Goribidnur was performed by the First Member of Council. The towns of Maddur, Sarjapur, Hoskote and Chintamani were provided with electric lights. The schemes for providing electric power for lighting and industrial purposes at Chikmagalur, Malur, Chamarajnagar, Gubbi and Madhugiri were under consideration. A combined Female Dispensary was opened at Anekal and another at Sira and sanction was accorded to the proposal for the construction of a Maternity Hospital at Yedatore. The Scout Rally and the Educational Exhibition held at Anekal are reported to have been successful.

16. *Audit and Inspection of Municipal Offices.*—The accounts of the Municipal Councils were audited by the Local Audit staff of the Comptroller's Office. No serious irregularities are reported to have been noticed in the accounts except in the case of Malur Town and two cases of misappropriation which took place in the Bangalore District. One of the cases ended in conviction, while in the other the culprit is reported to have been discharged. Government regret to note that, in spite of repeated observations in the reviews on the administration reports of Municipal Councils in previous years, the delay in the disposal of audit notes continued. The attention of the Presidents should be drawn to the provisions in the new Town and Minor Municipalities Regulations relating to the action to be taken in respect of audit notes and they should be requested to dispose of the pending audit notes within the prescribed period. The question of instituting an examination in the Municipal Regulations and the Municipal Accounts Manual for the officials to be employed by Municipal Councils so as to better equip them for their work is under the consideration of Government.

17. *Inspections.*—The offices of all the Town Municipal Councils and a large number of the Minor Municipal Councils were inspected by the Deputy Commissioners in the course of the year and instructions issued to remedy the defects brought to notice. In the Mysore District, the District Health Officer is also reported to have inspected certain Municipal Offices during the year and given suggestions for improvement of sanitation and conservancy in those places.

18. *General.*—The three Municipal Bills for City, Town and Minor Municipalities were promulgated into law and brought into force with effect from 1st August 1933. Fifty-two Municipalities have been reconstituted under the provisions of the new Regulations. Several rules have also been since issued under Section 106 of the Minor Municipalities Regulation, 1933. Government trust that, as a result of the increase in the elected strength of the local bodies, greater interest will be evinced by the non-official members in the discharge of the duties entrusted to them under the new Municipal Regulations.

M. VENKATANARANAPPA,
Secretary to Government,
Development Department.

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Constitution of Revenue Sub-Divisions in the Bangalore District.

READ—

Government Order No. R. 3346-9—L. R. 58-27-13, dated 9th November 1927, directing that revenue work of Bangalore Taluk be given to the Civil Officer, Bangalore District, without prejudice to his duties as District Excise Officer.

2. Government Order No. R. 588-89—L. R. 575-29-6, dated 23rd July 1930, directing that the arrangement effected as per order No. Camp R. 20—L. R. 575-29-2, dated 10th June 1930, transferring the revenue work of Bangalore City and Taluk from the District Excise Officer, Bangalore, to the Sub-Division Officer, Dodballapur, be kept in abeyance till the acquisition proceedings in respect of lands in the Adagodi village in Bangalore City Taluk are completed.

3. Government Order No. R. 1705-8—L. R. 15-31-5, dated 10th October 1931, directing that the arrangement requiring the District Excise Officer, Bangalore, to attend to the duties of the Civil Officer as well as those of the Revenue Division Officer with jurisdiction over Bangalore Taluk and Bangalore City Taluk be continued.

4. Government Order No. Fl. 5086-9—Ex. 46-33, dated 23rd—24th February 1934, directing that the District Excise Officer, Bangalore District, be relieved of the duties of the Civil Officer as well as those of the Revenue Sub-Division Officer with jurisdiction over Bangalore City and Taluk.

5. Correspondence ending with letter No. C. 2547—33-34, dated 4—5th January 1934, in the matter of redistribution of charges of Revenue Sub-Divisions in the Bangalore District.

ORDER No. R. 4536-95—L. R. 229-33-3, DATED BANGALORE, THE 13TH MARCH 1934.

As a wholetime officer for Excise work in the Bangalore District was considered necessary, the District Excise Officer, Bangalore District, was relieved of the duties of the Civil Officer as well as those of the Revenue Sub-Division Officer, Bangalore Taluk, in Government Order of 23rd—24th February 1934, read above, Government direct that the Civil Officer, who is Revenue Sub-Division Officer, Bangalore Taluk, be given the revenue charge of Anekal Taluk now included in the Dodballapur Sub-Division in addition to the Bangalore Taluk.

2. Under the arrangement now ordered the three Revenue Sub-Divisions in the Bangalore District will be constituted as follows:—

1. Bangalore Sub-Division. To consist of Bangalore and Anekal Taluks.
2. Dodballapur Sub-Division. To consist of Dodballapur, Hoskote, Devanhalli and Nelamangala Taluks.
3. Closepet Sub-Division. To consist of Closepet, Chennapatna, Magadi and Kankanhalli Taluks as at present.

S. ABDUL WAJID,
Secretary to Government,
General Department.